



Kahuku Unit Guided Hike Schedule

Enter the Kahuku Unit of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park on the mauka (uphill) side of Highway 11 near mile marker 70.5, and meet near the parking area. All activities are free to the public, no advance registration is required. Sturdy footwear, water, raingear, sun protection and a snack are recommended.

People and Lands of Kahuku is a moderate two-mile, three-hour guided hike that loops through varied landscapes to explore the human history of Kahuku. Emerging native forests, pastures, lava fields, and other sites hold clues about ways people have lived and worked on the vast Kahuku lands – from the earliest Hawaiians, through generations of ranching families, to the current staff of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Learn about the powerful natural forces at work here and how people have adapted to, shaped, and restored this land.

Dates: Jan 3, Jan 24, Feb 7, Feb 21, & Mar 20, 2016

Time: 9:30am to 12:30pm



Palm Trail is a moderately difficult 2.6-mile loop traversing scenic pastures along an ancient cinder cone, with some of the best panoramic views Kahuku has to offer. Highlights include relics of the ranching era, sections of remnant native forest and amazing volcanic features from the 1868 eruptive fissures.

Dates: Dec 20, 2015, Jan 10, Jan 30, Feb 14, Feb 28, & Mar 6, 2016

Time: 9:30am to 12:30pm

‘Ōhi‘a Lehua. Learn about the vital role of 'ōhi'a lehua in native Hawaiian forests, the many forms of the 'ōhi'a tree and the lehua flower. Visitors will be able to identify the many differences of the most prominent tree in Kahuku on this program which is an easy, one-mile (or less) walk.

Dates: Dec 26, 2015, Jan 9, Jan 23, Feb 6, Feb 27, Mar 12, & Mar 19, 2016

Time: 9:30am to 10:30am



Pu'u o Lokuana is a short, moderately difficult 0.4-mile hike to the top of the grassy cinder cone named Pu'u o Lokuana. Learn about the formation and various uses of this hill over time and enjoy a breathtaking view of lower Ka'ū.

Dates: Dec 19, 2015, Jan 16, Jan 31, Feb 20, & Mar 27, 2016

Time: 9:30am to 10:30am

Hi'iaka & Pele. Discover two fascinating Hawaiian goddesses, sisters Pele and Hi'iaka, and the natural phenomena they represent. Visitors will experience the sisters coming alive through the epic stories depicted in the natural landscape of Kahuku on this moderate one mile walk.

Dates: Jan 17, Feb 13, Mar 5, & Mar 26, 2016

Time: 9:30am to 11:00am





The Birth of Kahuku Join us in exploring the rich geologic history of Kahuku. Traverse the vast 1868 lava flow, see different volcanic features and formations and identify many parts of the Southwest Rift Zone of Mauna Loa. Learn about the Hawaiian hotspot and the creation of Kahuku.

Dates: Jan 2, & Mar 13, 2016

Time: 9:30am to 11:00am